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a. classification of subject matter IPC 7 H04N7/24 H04N H04N7/32 H04N7/26 H04N7/46 H04N7/52 H04N7/01 H04N5/44 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) HO4N Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that, such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, INSPEC C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category 9 Citation of document, with indication, 'where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X US 5 365 552 A (ASTLE BRIAN). 1-3,7-915 November 1994 (1994-11-15) 12-14, 18-21. 25,26, 29-35, 39-41, 51-55 column 1, line 31 - column 3, line 27 column 7, line 27 - column 7, line 44 figure 1 Α 4-6,10,11, 15-17, 36-38 WO 02/093936 A (ANDO YUJI ;SONY CORP (JP); ZHU YIWEN (JP); KOJIMA TAKASHI (JP); NA) X 1,7,12, 21 November 2002 (2002-11-21) X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but clied to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the International "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone Sting date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 18.06.04 25 March 2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Fassnacht, C

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ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	PCT/IB O	
Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.
& US 2003/174769 A1 (ANDO YUJI ET AL) 18 September 2003 (2003-09-18) paragraphs '0115! - '0119!, '0138! paragraphs '0159! - '0169! figure 2 claims 1,9,12		
FIBUSH D K: "TIMING AND SYNCHRONIZATION USING MPEG-2 TRANSPORT STREAMS" SMPTE JOURNAL, SMPTE INC. SCARSDALE, N.Y, US, vol. 105, no. 7, 1 July 1996 (1996-07-01), pages 395-400, XP000597142 ISSN: 0036-1682 the whole document		12,19, 33,35, 39,41
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	& US 2003/174769 A1 (ANDO YUJI ET AL) 18 September 2003 (2003-09-18) paragraphs '0115! - '0119!, '0138! paragraphs '0159! - '0169! figure 2 claims 1,9,12 FIBUSH D K: "TIMING AND SYNCHRONIZATION USING MPEG-2 TRANSPORT STREAMS" SMPTE JOURNAL, SMPTE INC. SCARSDALE, N.Y, US, vol. 105, no. 7, 1 July 1996 (1996-07-01), pages 395-400, XP000597142 ISSN: 0036-1682	& US 2003/174769 A1 (ANDO YUJI ET AL) 18 September 2003 (2003-09-18) paragraphs '0115! - '0119!, '0138! paragraphs '0159! - '0169! figure 2 claims 1,9,12 FIBUSH D K: "TIMING AND SYNCHRONIZATION USING MPEG-2 TRANSPORT STREAMS" SMPTE JOURNAL, SMPTE INC. SCARSDALE, N.Y, US, vol. 105, no. 7, 1 July 1996 (1996-07-01), pages 395-400, XP000597142 ISSN: 0036-1682

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
see additional sheet
1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
1-19,30-41,51-55
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-19,30-41,51-55

Slowdown of content reproduction in an audio-visual content transmission system including a source station, channel buffer, and destination station, with a modification of rate of reproduction before and after a channel buffer reaches a predetermined degree of fullness

1.1. claims: 1-19,30-32,33-41,51-55

Slowdown of content reproduction in an audio-visual content transmission system including a source station, channel buffer, and destination station, with a modification of reproduction rate before and after a channel buffer reaches a predetermined degree of fullness

1.2. claims: 33,35,39,40,42

Slowdown of content reproduction in an audio-visual content transmission system including a source station, channel buffer, and destination station, with joint bit rate control based performed on the basis of an estimation of channel buffer fullness

2. claims: 33,35,39,40,42.

Slowdown of content reproduction in an audio-visual content transmission system including a source station, channel buffer, and destination station, with joint bit rate control based performed on the basis of an estimation of channel buffer fullness

3. claims: 12,19-24,43-46

Slowdown of content reproduction in an audio-visual content transmission system including a source station, channel buffer, and destination station, with field repetition if interfield motion is below a threshold

4. claims: 12,19,25-29,33,35,47-50

Slowdown of content reproduction in an audio-visual content transmission system including a source station, channel buffer, and destination station, with a determination of the suitability of audio frames for repetition

information on patent family members

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